

wherein:

a and b are 0 or 1;

A and B, independently, are selected from the group consisting of a single bond, -COO-, -OOC-, -CH₂-CH₂-, -OCH₂-, -CH₂-O-, -CH=CH- (cis or trans); -C≡C-, -CH=CH-CH=CH- (cis or trans);

Y represents up to four substituents on a given ring where the substituents are selected from a halogen, CN or NO₂;

Core rings A, B and C can be aromatic or alicyclic, if aromatic one or two ring carbons can be replaced with a heteroatom or if alicyclic rings can contain 3-10 carbon atoms and optionally can contain a double bond, wherein one or two CH₂ of the alicyclic ring can be replaced with O or a C=O group;

A₁
cont.

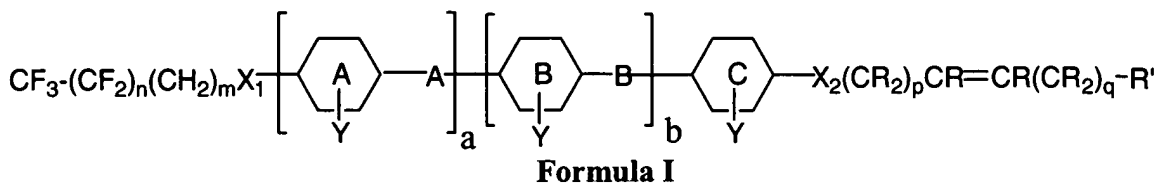
m and n are integers ranging from 1 to 20, inclusive; p is an integer ranging from 2 to 20, inclusive; q is 0 or an integer ranging from 1 to 20; inclusive; n + m is 4 to 20 and p + q is 4 to 20;

X₁ and X₂, independently, are -O- or a single bond; and

R and R', independent of other R or R' in the alkenyl tail are hydrogens or alkyl groups having from one to twenty carbon atoms.

Please replace claim 23 with the following clean version:

23. (Once amended) A LC compound having the formula:



wherein:

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Y represents up to four substituents on a given ring where the substituents are selected from a halogen, CN or NO₂;

Core rings A, B and C can be aromatic or alicyclic, if aromatic one or two ring carbons can be replaced with a heteroatom or if alicyclic rings can contain 3-10 carbon atoms and optionally can contain a double bond, wherein one or two CH₂ of the alicyclic ring can be replaced with O or a C=O group;

m and n are integers ranging from 1 to 20, inclusive; p is an integer ranging from 2 to 20, inclusive; q is 0 or an integer ranging from 1 to 20; inclusive; n + m is 4 to 20 and p + q is 4 to 20;

X₁ and X₂, independently, are -O- or a single bond; and

R and R', independent of other R or R' in the alkenyl tail are hydrogens or alkyl groups having from one to twenty carbon atoms.

A2
cont.